DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 126 653 EC 090 569

| | |
|---|---|
| AUTHOR | Bruninhaus, Roy; Wiegerink, Ron |
| TITLE | Profiles of DD Councils. |
| INSTITUTION | North Carolina Univ., Chapel Hill. Frank Porter Graham Center. |
| SPONS AGENCY | Office of Human Development (DHEW), Washington, D.C. Office of Developmental Disabilities. |
| PUB DATE | 76 |
| NOTE | 45p. |
| EDRS PRICE | MF-$0.83 HC-$2.06 Plus Postage. |
| DESCRIPTORS | Exceptional Child Research; *Handicapped Children; *State Agencies; *Statistical Data; Surveys |
| IDENTIFIERS | *Developmental Disabilities; *Planning Councils for Developmental Disabilities |

ABSTRACT

Reported are the findings of a study on the basic characteristics of 54 state Planning Councils for Developmental Disabilities. A summary of information is provided in Part I in the form of graphs representing size of councils, frequency of council meetings, type of state authority (if any), council staff positions, types of council committees, regional structures, and administrative agencies to which councils are attached. The above information is given separately by state in Part II. In the report's conclusion, several positive trends over the past 4 years (such as the increase in the number of councils with statutory authority, the increase in staff, and better organization) are noted. Appended is a sample contact sheet for technical assistance needs assessment. (SB)

**********
* Documents acquired by ERIC include many informal unpublished *
* materials not available from other sources. ERIC makes every effort *
* to obtain the best copy available. Nevertheless, items of marginal *
* reproducibility are often encountered and this affects the quality *
* of the microfiche and hardcopy reproductions ERIC makes available *
* via the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). EDRS is not *
* responsible for the quality of the original document. Reproductions *
* supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made from the original. *
**********

ED126653

U S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

# PROFILES OF DD COUNCILS

Spring 1976

By: Roy Bruninghaus
Ron Wiegerink

Published and Distributed by the
Developmental Disabilities Technical Assistance System
A Division of the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

EC090569

This paper was prepared pursuant to a grant from the Office of Developmental Disabilities, Office of Human Development, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Grantees undertaking such projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their judgement in professional and technical matters. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official DDO, OHD, HEW position or policy.

Typists: Mary Jo Bryan, Linda Lasley / Editing and Design: Buz Lloyd

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction..... 1

Part I Summary of Information..... 3

Part II State Responses..... 13

Conclusion..... 43

Appendix..... 47

Chart Insert

## Introduction

The purpose of this report is to share information on the basic characteristics of state Planning Councils for Developmental Disabilities. As part of its FY76 needs assessment process, DD/TAS asked chairpersons and staff directors of Councils to indicate information about a number of Council characteristics (see Appendix for Questionnaire). Fifty-four staff directors and seven chairpersons responded. The results of this effort are reported in the charts and tables in this report. Fifty-four Councils are included in this information.

The information is organized so that both summary statistics and individual state responses can be viewed with ease. This format enables the reader to do additional breakdowns of the information to meet his own needs. The Chart Insert is an attempt to combine both a summary and listing of individual responses in order to provide a simple reference guide to persons interested in Council characteristics. The final section of this report is devoted to a discussion of the trends in Council characteristics over a four year period. Information on Council characteristics collected by DD/TAS in the fall of 1973 is used as one of the bases for this discussion.

# Part I

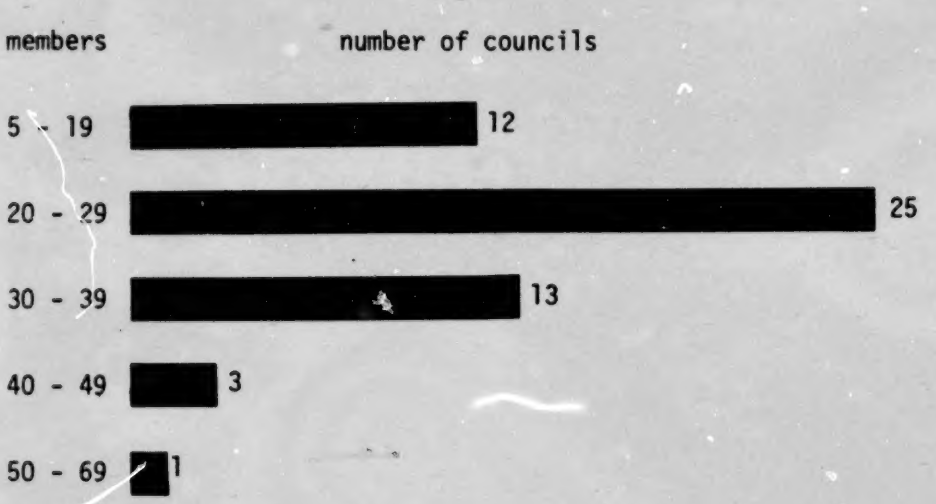
## Summary of Information

Summary of Information

SIZE OF COUNCIL

Councils range in size from 6 to 60 members, with the average being 26 members.

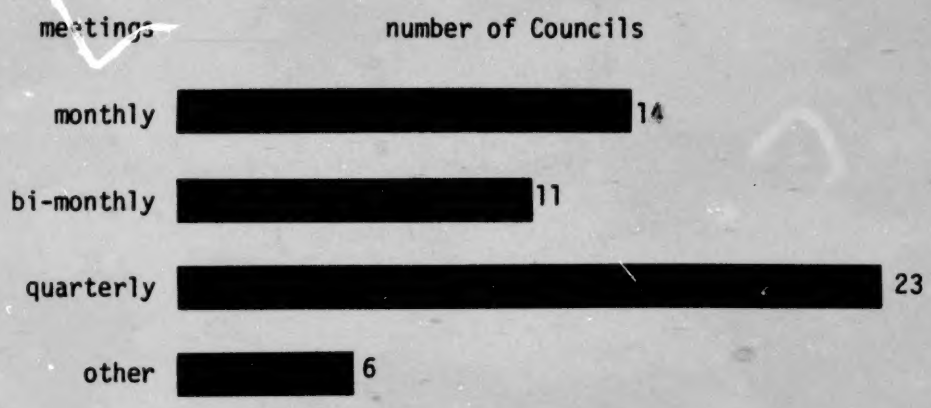
figure 1



## FREQUENCY OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Frequency of Council meetings varies from once a year (the remainder by ballot) to once per month. Almost half of the Councils meet quarterly.

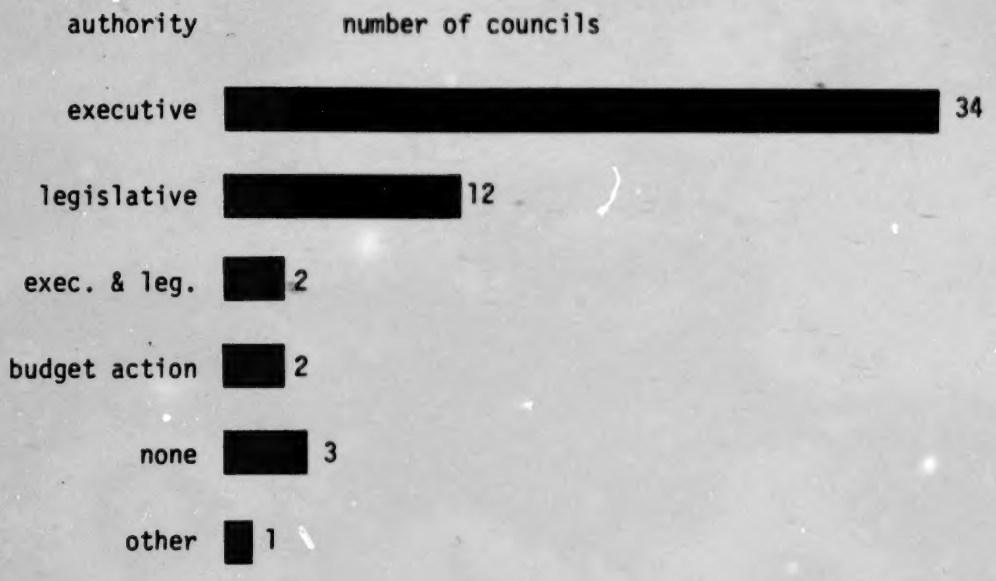
figure 2



## STATE AUTHORITY

In addition to the Federal authority of PL94-103, the majority of Councils operate additionally with some kind of state authority. For almost two thirds of the Councils that authority is a governor's executive order.

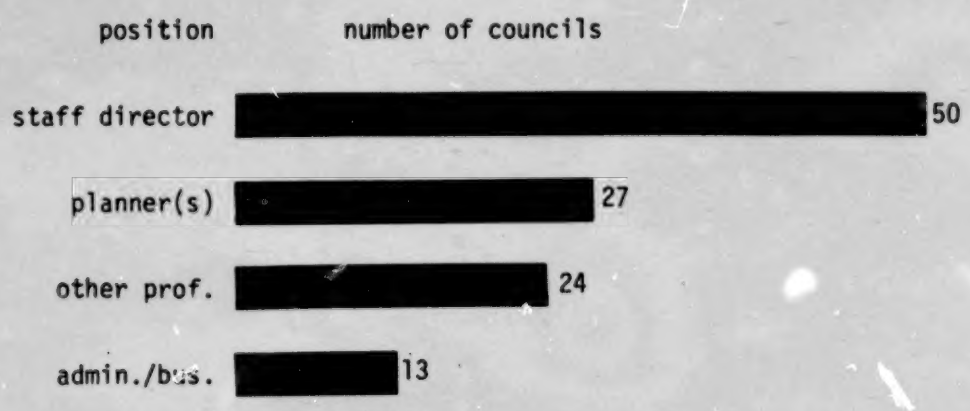
f'gure 3



## COUNCIL STAFF

Almost every council has a staff director. Half of the Councils have planners, and almost half of them have additional professional staff, either on a part-time or full-time basis.

figure 4

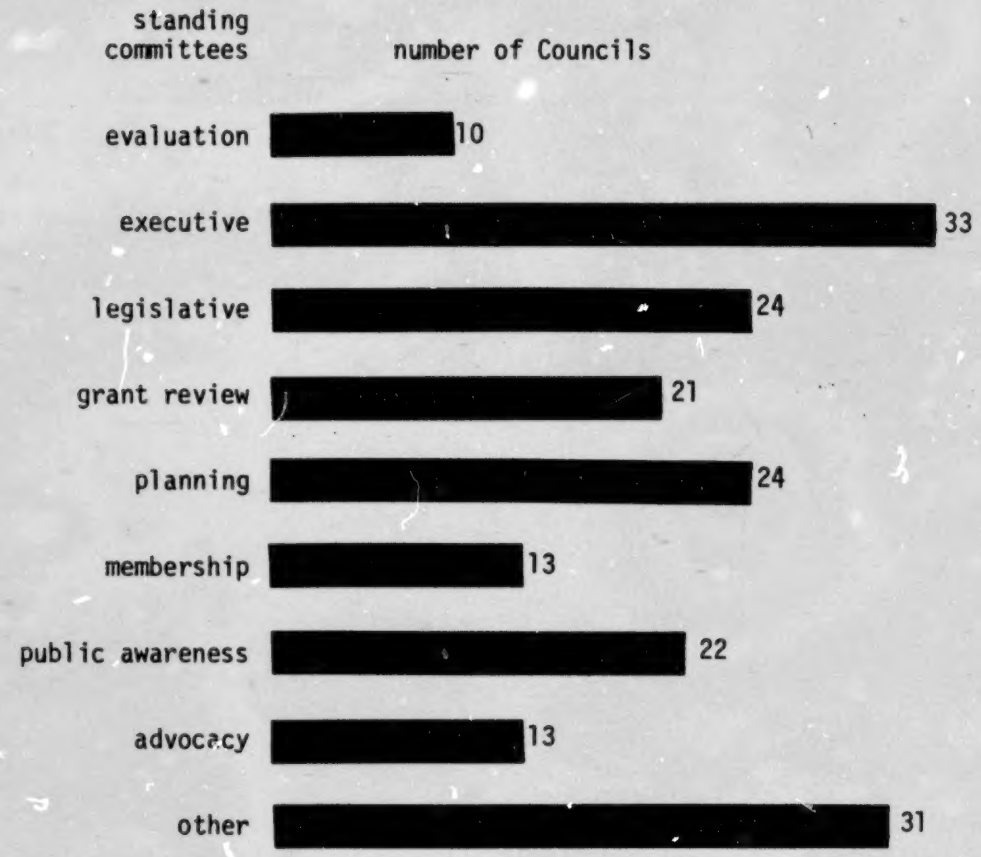



Note: Secretarial and clerical staff are not included in this tabulation since respondents did not always indicate these positions. Those indicated are listed with the profiles of each state in Part II.

## COUNCIL COMMITTEES

The most prevalent standing committees of Councils are executive/ steering, legislative, and planning in that order. Three Councils do not have any committees either standing or ad-hoc. One Council has only ad-hoc committees. Thirty-one Councils have other standing committees in such a variety of areas that it is impossible to classify them under a couple of headings.

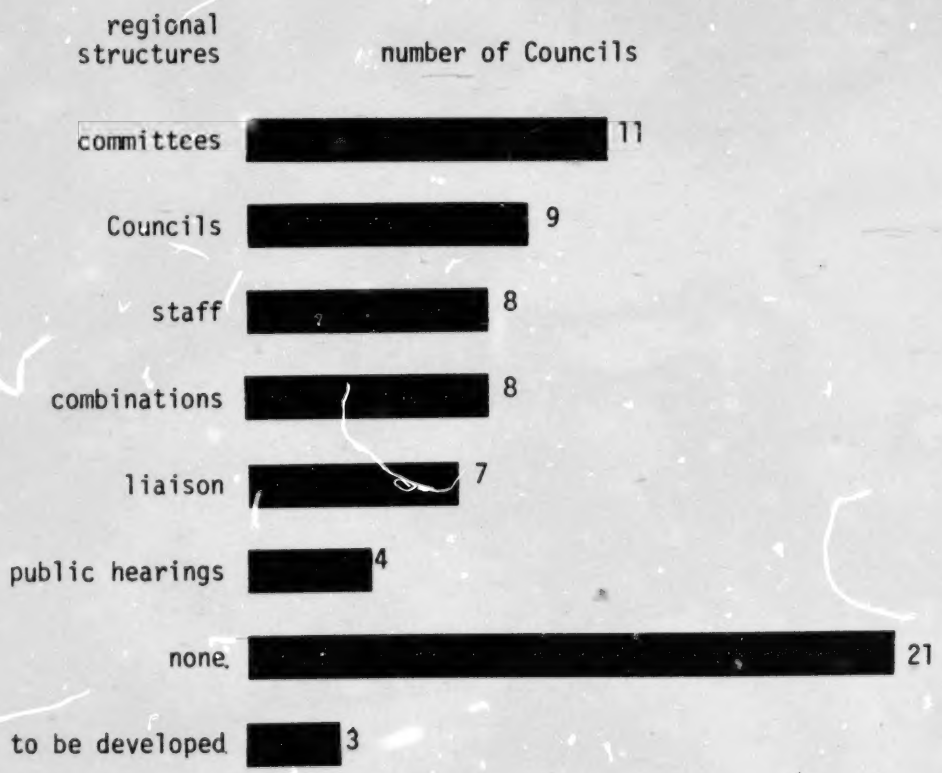
figure 5



## REGIONAL STRUCTURES

More than half of the Councils have some form of regional DD structure. Three Councils are in the process of developing regional structures. Regional committees are the most common structure followed by regional councils, staffs and combinations of various structures.

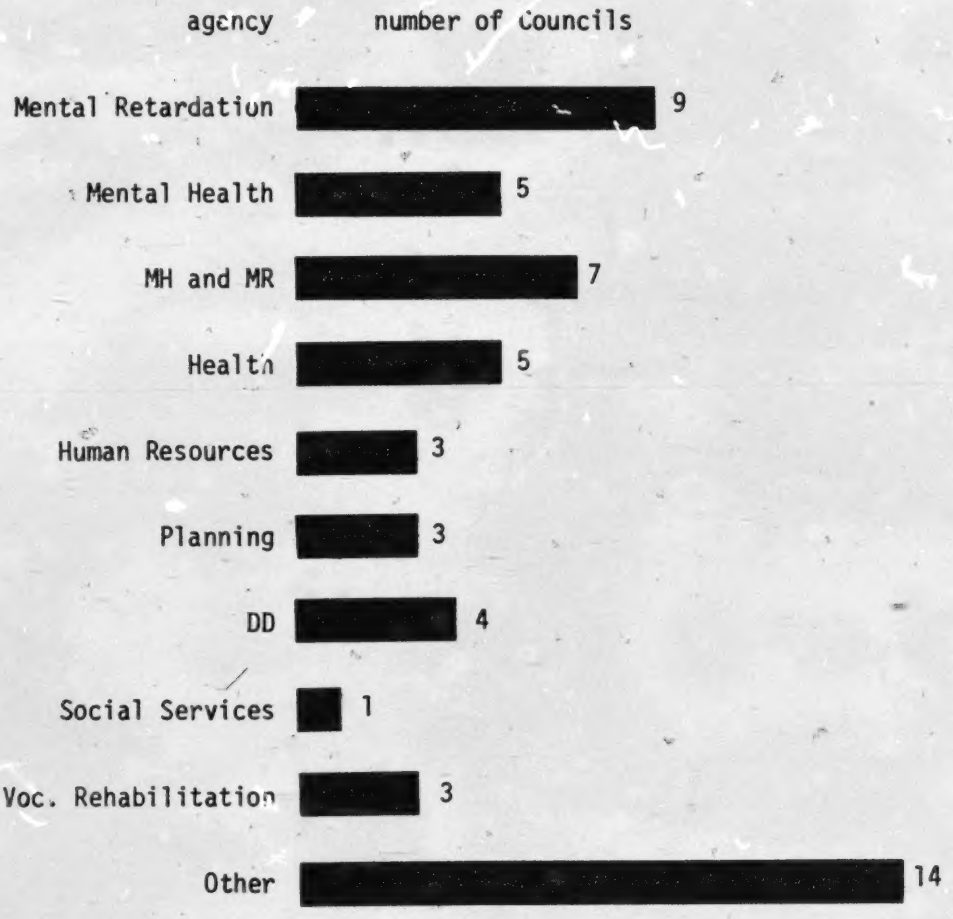
figure 6



## ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY

Almost half of the Councils are attached to departments or divisions of health, mental health, mental retardation or mental health and retardation. Becuase there is a tendency to combine health or mental health with a variety of other areas such as welfare or social services or mental hygiene, the "other" catagory in Figure 7 below is so large. It is therefore probably more useful to look at the charts which show the administrative agencies for each state Council. Classification is also difficult because a number of these agencies are divisions or offices within departments. Figure 7 identifies those agencies closest to the Councils. Agencies responsible for construction are not included here.

figure 7



# Part II

## State Responses

# alabama

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 12 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health<br>Department of Public Health (Const.) |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, admin. ass't. |
| standing committees: | budget, planning, personnel and policies |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | public hearings, one year community planner (catchment areas) contracted to DD. |

# alaska

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 14 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health and Social Services |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | planner, service development specialist |
| standing committees: | steering, legislative, nominating, public awareness, by-laws, ways and means |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | none |

## arizona

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 22 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Economic Security |
| state authority: | legislative (MR only) |
| staff: | planner |
| standing committees: | administrative, public information, planning, evaluation, research & development, legislative |
| ad hoc committees: | council functions, responsibilities and future directions; changing focus of State MR legislation |
| regional structure: | 6 committees |

## arkansas

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 24 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Retardation; Developmental Disabilities Services Administration |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director |
| standing committees: | executive, grant review, service needs, priorities, goals and objectives |
| ad hoc committees: | plan revision, nominating |
| regional structure: | none |

# california

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 15 |
| meetings: | bi-monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | director |
| standing committees: | executive, state plans, prevention, public awareness and education, evaluation, UAF, licensing of facilities, legislative relations |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | 13 areawide DD planning boards provide input to council; not under council |

# colorado

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 36 |
| meetings: | bi-annually |
| admin. agency: | Office of the Governor; Office of State Planning and Budget |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, planner, assistant staff director, secretary |
| standing committees: | state planning, legislative, coordination, evaluation, public information, rules and regulations |
| ad hoc committees: | vocational rehabilitation committee |
| regional structure: | 3 councils |

# connecticut

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 38 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Retardation |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, public information officer, administrative trainee |
| standing committees: | executive, steering, legislative, project review, project evaluation, human rights |
| ad hoc committees: | council structure |
| regional structure: | none |

# delaware

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 19 |
| meetings: | bi-monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health and Social Services |
| state authority: | none |
| staff: | director, secretarial assistant |
| standing committees: | review, evaluation, nominating, executive, orientation |
| ad hoc committees: | central data bank, legislation, legal rights, transportation, vocational training study, early intervention, law |
| regional structure: | none |

# district of columbia

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 29 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Human Resources |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, legal assistant, secretary |
| standing committees: | grant review, executive |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | to be developed |

# florida

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 33 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health & Rehabilitation Services; Retardation Program Office |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director |
| standing committees: | legislative, membership, priorities & activities, executive |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | none |

## georgia

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 27 |
| meetings: | bi-monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Human Resources; Division of Mental Health & Mental Retardation, Division of Physical Health (Const.) |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, planner, researcher, administrative assistant, secretary |
| standing committees: | advocacy, group homes, services for children under 6, public relations |
| ad hoc committees: | genetic counseling task force |
| regional structure: | to be developed |

## guam

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 37 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Vocational Rehabilitation |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director |
| standing committees: | no information |
| ad hoc committees: | no information |
| regional structure: | committees |

# hawaii

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 25 |
| meetings: | bi-monthly |
| admin. agency: | governor's office |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | planner |
| standing committees: | project review, nominating, executive |
| ad hoc committees: | task force on Waimano |
| regional structure: | 3 committees |

# idaho

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 16 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health and Social Welfare |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, planner, clerical, accountant |
| standing committees: | advocacy, executive, grant review, legislative, state planning |
| ad hoc committees: | legislative workshop task force |
| regional structure: | none |

# illinois

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 32 |
| meetings: | bi-monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health; Division of Developmental Disabilities |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, 4 planners, 3 clerical |
| standing committees: | executive, state plan and evaluation, grants, advocacy, public education and information |
| ad hoc committees: | specialized living facilities, redefinition of project funds |
| regional structure: | 15 regional committees |

# indiana

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 27 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health; Division of Mental Retardation |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | director |
| standing committees: | executive |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | none |

# iowa

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 18 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Office of Planning and Programming |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, 2 planners |
| standing committees: | grants, state plan, public information & education, area DD councils, law and legislation |
| ad hoc committees: | by-laws, roles & responsibilities, residential |
| regional structure: | 16 councils |

# kansas

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 25 |
| meetings: | 4 - 6 times per year |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | director, evaluator, secretary |
| standing committees: | nominating, legislative |
| ad hoc committees: | family life education, public education, prevention, liaison, (UAF/DD Agency) |
| regional structure: | councils |

# kentucky

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 6 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Human Resources; Bureau of Health Services |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, planner, program consultant, fiscal analyst, secretary |
| standing committees: | none |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | none |

# louisiana

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 49 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health & Human Resources; Division of Mental Retardation & Division of Management, Engineering, and Consulting Services (Const.) |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | director |
| standing committees: | planning, evaluation, grant review, legislation, vocational rehabilitation - special education, mental retardation, mental health, corrections, volunteer groups |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | none |

# maine

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 31 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Bureau of Mental Retardation |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | director, planner, secretary, accountant |
| standing committees: | human rights, legislative, UAF, project review, nominating, steering |
| ad hoc committees: | orientation |
| regional structure: | 6 committees |

# maryland

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 30 |
| meetings: | bi-monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health & Mental Hygiene |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, assistant director, planner, lawyer |
| standing committees: | steering, nominations and appointments, grants, legal and human rights, information and referral/Data based systems, institutional reform/accreditation, community based programs |
| ad hoc committees: | epilepsy, autism |
| regional structure: | established committees as necessary |

## massachusetts

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 60 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Office of Federal/State Resources; Executive Office for Administration and Finance |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | none at present |
| standing committees: | steering committee, state plan review & supervision, monitoring & evaluation, advocacy, human rights |
| ad hoc committees: | housing |
| regional structure: | none |

## michigan

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 21 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Public Health |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, coordinator, 3 consultants |
| standing committees: | none |
| ad hoc committees: | epilepsy services, genetic services, roles and responsibilities |
| regional structure: | committees |

# minnesota

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 27 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | State Planning Agency |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, 4 planners, 3 interns, 3 secretaries |
| standing committees: | executive, advocacy and protective services, case management, community alternatives, government affairs, grant review, public awareness |
| ad hoc committees: | philosophy and mission, citizen advocacy, personnel |
| regional structure: | 8 councils and 8 staff |

# mississippi

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 31 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | director, planner, 2 regional coordinators, project administrator |
| standing committees: | alternative living arrangements, public relations, education and manpower training, legal and legislative, community services and biometrics |
| ad hoc committees: | projects review, travel |
| regional structure: | staff |

## missouri

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 17 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | director, secretary |
| standing committees: | vocational rehabilitation, state plan review, epilepsy, legislative, evaluation, training, special education, St. Louis State School-Hospital |
| ad hoc committees: | goals and objectives |
| regional structure: | regional councils and staff |

## montana

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 21 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | director |
| standing committees: | planning and evaluation, information and liaison, program strategies, resource utilization |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | liaison and councils (representatives from regional councils on State council) |

# nebraska

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 26 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health; Division of Developmental Disabilities |
| state authority: | budget action |
| staff: | director, planner, public health educator, special assistant, secretary |
| standing committees: | planning, grant review, executive, publicity legislative |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | none |

# nevada

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 15 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Rehabilitation Services |
| state authority: | legislative budget action |
| staff: | director, planner, secretary |
| standing committees: | evaluation, executive, legislative |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | liaison |

## new hampshire

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 21 |
| meetings: | bi-monthly |
| admin. agency: | Office of Mental Retardation |
| state authority: | none |
| staff: | director, research assistant |
| standing committees: | executive, planning, legislative, public awareness, human rights |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | committees, staff |

## new jersey

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 25 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Institutions and Agencies; Division of Mental Retardation |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, planner, research and planning assistant, communications and media specialist |
| standing committees: | executive, planning and evaluation, public awareness, legislation, advocacy |
| ad hoc committees: | SCRIP, human service impact, health services for children, licensing, housing, manpower |
| regional structure: | liaison |

# new mexico

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 25 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Education; Division of Vocational Rehabilitation |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, health educator, administrative specialist |
| standing committees: | membership, public information |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | none |

# new york

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 35 |
| meetings: | bi-monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Hygiene |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, planner, secretary, accountant clerk |
| standing committees: | executive, planning, program, public information |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | none |

# north carolina

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 30 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Human Resources; Division of Mental Health Services |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | director, 6 planners |
| standing committees: | steering, community liaison, education and rehabilitation, intragency, legal/ legislative, manpower, prevention-evaluation |
| ad hoc committees: | guardianship |
| regional structure: | councils, staff, public hearings |

# north dakota

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 20 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director |
| standing committees: | state plan, nominations |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | councils being developed |

# ohio

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 31 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation; Division of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, 2 grants specialists, fiscal analyst |
| standing committees: | planning and priorities; grant review; public information; legislative, human rights, protective services, and advocacy; finance and personnel |
| ad hoc committees: | interagency/external linkage |
| regional structure: | district citizen committees |

# oklahoma

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 23 |
| meetings: | 1 per year and ballot |
| admin. agency: | Division of Social Rehabilitation Services |
| state authority: | executive and legislative |
| staff: | director, planner, evaluator, secretary |
| standing committees: | budget review |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | none |

# oregon

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 26 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Human Resources |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, planner |
| standing committees: | nominating, legislative, community development, executive |
| ad hoc committees: | 4 task forces for service programs |
| regional structure: | committees (county planning units in 25% of counties) |

# pennsylvania

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 40 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Governor's Office of Human Resources |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, planner, legislative coordinator, grants and evaluation coordinator, information officer, secretary |
| standing committees: | executive, community education, program evaluation, legislative, by-laws, planning, services coordination, membership, personnel, nominating |
| ad hoc committees: | consumer, transportation and leisure activities, SSI, right to education |
| regional structure: | none |

## puerto rico

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 23 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, fiscal officer |
| standing committees: | none |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | none |

## rhode island

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 30 |
| meetings: | bi-monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health Retardation and Hospitals |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | director, 2 research technicians |
| standing committees: | executive, legislative, planning, grant review, evaluation, UAF, human rights, public relations |
| ad hoc committees: | health, social and rehabilitative services, mental health and mental retardation, eduation and vocational rehabilitation, manpower affairs |
| regional structure: | none |

# south carolina

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 24 |
| meetings: | bi-monthly |
| admin. agency: | Governor's Planning Office, Department of Mental Retardation, Department of Health and Environmental Control (Const.) |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | 2 professionals, clerical |
| standing committees: | executive, review and evaluation, finance, community alternative, public awareness |
| ad hoc committees: | nominating, early identification, case management, housing and architectural barriers, transportation |
| regional structure: | none |

# south dakota

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 17 |
| meetings: | 4 - 6 times per year |
| admin. agency: | Department of Social Services; Division of Mental Health and Mental Retardation; Office of Developmental Disabilities |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, 4 professionals (3 of them field staff) |
| standing committees: | executive, projects and program evaluation, grant review |
| ad hoc committees: | law and handicapped, human sexuality |
| regional structure: | 6 councils, 3 staff, liaison, public hearings |

# tennessee

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 42 |
| meetings: | bi-monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health and Retardation |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, planner |
| standing committees: | welfare, education, mental health, public health, legislative |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | staff |

# texas

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 22 |
| meetings: | 4 - 5 times per year |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation |
| state authority: | none |
| staff: | director, evaluator-program specialist, secretary |
| standing committees: | none |
| ad hoc committees: | grant procedures, mobile D & E units, personnel, mental retardation code revision |
| regional structure: | none |

# utah

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 20 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Social Services |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | executive secretary, planner |
| standing committees: | executive, planning and evaluation, program strategies, residential utilization, information and liaison |
| ad hoc committees: | state plan for early intervention services (task force) |
| regional structure: | 4 committees (ad hoc) |

# vermont

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 33 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, secretary |
| standing committees: | steering, citizens awareness, legislative, human rights and advocacy, project review, stabilized funding, university affiliated facilities, planning, nominating |
| ad hoc committees: | wills, trusts and estate planning |
| regional structure: | none |

# virginia

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 21 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Mental Health and Retardation<br>Department of Health (Const.) |
| state authority: | executive and legislative |
| staff: | director, 3 planners, assistant director, special project coordinator |
| standing committees: | steering, review, human rights and appeals |
| ad hoc committees: | council/staff liaison, personnel, state plan, evaluation, legislative review, interstate |
| regional structure: | 6 staff (planning and assessment responsibilities) |

# virgin islands

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 10 |
| meetings: | 3 per year |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health, Department of Maternal Child Health and Crippled Children (Const.) |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, secretary |
| standing committees: | none |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | none |



39

## washington

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 21 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Bureau of Developmental Disabilities |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, administrative assistant |
| standing committees: | executive, medical affairs |
| ad hoc committees: | budget, legal, epilepsy, cerebral palsy, crippled children's service |
| regional structure: | liaison (council works with Mental Retardation – Developmental Disabilities boards) |

## west virginia

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 27 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Commission on Mental Retardation<br>Department of Health (Const.) |
| state authority: | executive |
| staff: | director, planner |
| standing committees: | executive, grant review, evaluation, planning |
| ad hoc committees: | standards |
| regional structure: | liaison (consumer member in each of 11 regions) |

# wisconsin

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 12 |
| meetings: | monthly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health and Social Services; Division of Mental Hygiene |
| state authority: | legislative |
| staff: | director, 2 planners, administrative assistant, secretary, clerk, 1/8 of 8 consultants, 1/2 accountant |
| standing committees: | government affairs, evaluation, executive, planning and budget, public relations |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | public hearings |

# wyoming

| | |
|---|---|
| members: | 26 |
| meetings: | quarterly |
| admin. agency: | Department of Health and Social Services; Division of Mental Health and Mental Retardation |
| state authority: | governor's appointment |
| staff: | director, 2 planners |
| standing committees: | nominating, legislative, public relations, budget, by-laws, state plan revision |
| ad hoc committees: | none |
| regional structure: | liaison |

## Conclusion

In 1972, DD/TAS compiled a descriptive analysis of the Developmental Disabilities Councils in the United States. At that time, the Councils were in their infancy, though many sprang from earlier mental retardation councils and the like. Four years later, DD/TAS has again received descriptive information from the DD Councils, and their development as organizations is evident. However, as a philosopher said so long ago, "The more things change, the more they remain the same." While the descriptive statistics indicate change, Councils are still confronted by many of the same substantive and political forces as in the earlier years.

The statistics show that while many Councils have changed in size, either getting larger or smaller, as a group they are approximately the same size they were four years ago. The present average size is 26, compared with 25 four years ago, while the current range of 6 to 60 is broader than the (earlier) range of 11 to 46. A change that may reflect a serious problem is the drop in the frequency of meetings. Our recent data indicates a trend toward fewer meetings, quarterly meetings being the most common, whereas four years ago Councils met more regularly. However, almost half (25) meet at least bi-monthly.

A number of positive trends are indicated by the increase in the number of Councils with statutory authority (12) and the number with clearly specified executive mandates (34). There has also been a significant increase in staff; almost all (50) states now have a staff director and over half have additional full-time professional staff. It also appears that Councils are becoming better

organized, at least from the standpoint of committees which provide the opportunity for effective division of labor. In addition, over half of the Councils are utilizing regional DD structures to accomplish within-state communications.

While the placement of some Councils has shifted from one administering agency to another, as a group the placements remain relatively the same. If there is a trend in placement, it is toward higher levels within state government organization and toward more autonomous authority from the administering agency. However, the statistics and the activities of Councils to date do not yet provide an answer to the question, "What, if any, is the best placement for DD Councils?"

In sum, DD/TAS regards these trends as being most positive. Clearly, the Councils are coming of age in organizational development and as active forces in the field of services to developmentally disabled people. However, from our perspective, there is a parallel between DD Councils' growth and development and the developing independence of a person. As a person during adolescence begins to exert independence, forces attempt to counteract and contain this developing autonomy. So it is with DD Councils, which in their very act of establishing independent identities are confronting forces to contain and control them. The composition and placement of DD Councils at the hub of federal/state/local human service systems will give these matured organizations expansive territory in which to advocate for their consumers. It is our belief that if Councils, supported by the new Federal DD legislation, can continue to strive for their independence, identity, and rights,

our nation will have a most potent advocate for developmentally disabled citizens.

Appendix

DD/TAS CONTACT SHEET FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

State _____ Council Chairperson _____

Date _____ DD Staff Director _____

Person Completing this form _____

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

1) How many members does the Council have? _____

2) How frequently does the Council meet? _____

3) Identify the Council's administering agency(ies) a) _____

b) _____ c)_____

4) Under what state authority does the Council currently operate?

a) executive order ( ) b) legislative action ( )

c) other (specify) _____

5) Identify the Council's structures: (Please check and indicate numbers of persons, if more than one currently occupies the position)

chairperson _____ staff director _____ planner(s) _____

other (please I.D.) _____

standing committees (please list) _____

_____

_____

Ad-HOC Committees or task forces (please list) _____

_____

_____

6) Identify the Council's regional structures: none ( ) OR:

councils ( ), committees ( ), staff ( ), liaison ( )

public hearings ( ), and/or other (please identify) _____

_____